THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Indian Armed Forces do not have any "Rocket Aircraft' missile in their inventory.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Permission to Indian Tourists to Bring one Firearm

2724. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian tourists were previously allowed to bring one firearm on payment of customs duty;

(b) whether the baggage rules were amended in 1986 prohibiting bringing of fire–arms by Indian tourists;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether since March, 1990 a persons engaged in employment overseas is permitted to bring one fire–arm under the Transfer of Residence Rules, with the condition that it cannot be sold for life;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide similar facility to the Indian tourists;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import of firearms as baggage was prohibited through the issue of Import Trade Control Public Notice.

(c) The import of firearms was prohibited in the light of the conditions then obtaining in the country.

(d) The relaxation to permit import of one firearm under the Transfer of Residence Rules, 1978 was given in January, 1988.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to Part (e).

(g) The conditions obtaining in the country at present do not call for any relaxation in the existing policy.

[*Translation*]

Construction of by Pass on National Highway No.24 at Faridpur (Bareilly)

2725. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a by pass on the segment of National Highway No. 24 passing through Faridpur (Bareilly); and

(b) if so, the time by which it would be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Export to USSR

2727. SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total volume of exports to Soviet Union during 1990–91 and the fall in exports during the current year;

(b) the percentage of fall in exports to